

During this time, Dr. Patton became deeply involved in the political process of our State and Nation. In 1952, he called community leaders together from around the State and organized the Alabama State Coordinating Association for Registration and Voting. At the time, there were approximately 20,000 registered black voters in the State of Alabama. He became president of the Birmingham branch of the NAACP and later became president of the Alabama State Conference of NAACP Branches. After 10 years, he resigned with the American Woodmen to become executive secretary for the State NAACP of Alabama. Membership increased and Alabama ranked second behind North Carolina in the southeast.

In 1956, when the NAACP was enjoined from doing business in Alabama, he became the national association director of voter education for the NAACP with headquarters in Memphis, TN. Later he became national director of NAACP voter education.

Dr. Patton did not limit his work to one area; he has served his community in many capacities—on many boards and educational and civic committees, to make Birmingham a safe and progressive place to live.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE RICHARD H. BREINER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 1997*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my district's most dedicated and caring public servants, the Honorable Judge Richard H. Breiner. Judge Breiner is being honored for a lifetime of exemplary service to his community as presiding judge of the Marin County Superior Court for the past 20 years. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to join many of his friends, colleagues, and family to celebrate his remarkable accomplishments at his retirement party in January of this year.

As an appointed judge to the Marin County Superior Court, Judge Breiner earned an excellent reputation, and received the prestigious California Judges Association President's Award in 1992. In addition, his ongoing commitment to improve the community led him to take leading roles in numerous civic and law-related organizations. Since his arrival to Marin County in 1975, he has served as trustee of the Big Brothers of Marin, as director of the Marin County Drug Abuse Advisory Committee, as director of the Women's Foundation Advisory Committee, and as founding member and director of the Marin County Park and Open Space Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to the Honorable Judge Richard H. Breiner and to thank him for his tireless efforts to serve his community, both as a judge and as an involved citizen. The people of Marin County owe him a great deal of gratitude. I extend my hearty congratulations and best wishes to Judge Breiner, his committed wife, Dottie, and his two children, Daniel and Deborah, for continued success in the years to come.

#### THE BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN REFORM ACT

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 1997*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, the 1996 elections highlighted a number of problems with our present system of campaign finance—the power and influence of outside organizations, the tendency of wealthy candidates to dramatically jack up the costs of a race, the ineffectiveness of the Federal Election Commission, and the wily resourcefulness of candidates and parties to raise the funds that they need.

At this point, I think most Americans and Members in the Chamber would agree that there is a problem with our system of financing campaigns and that the present system should be changed. However, there is significant disagreement on the best method for actually reforming the system. Enacting campaign finance reform legislation will not be an easy task, in spite of its necessity.

In the interest of moving campaign finance reform forward this year, I have agreed to co-sponsor the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act sponsored by Congressmen SHAYS and MEEHAN. This bill has the momentum to move through the cumbersome legislative process, and by moving forward, the bill keeps the issue of campaign finance reform alive and on the agenda. In addition, while I have reservations about some provisions, the legislation makes many important reforms that will do much to address campaign finance abuses of recent years.

For example, it equalizes PAC and individual contributions at \$1,000 per election; it improves disclosure, thereby bringing sunshine on the spending practices of outside groups to influence Federal elections; candidates may match outside group spending without having that spending count toward their spending limits; it bans mass mailings in election years; it strengthens the Federal Election Commission's enforcement mechanisms; it bans soft money and bundling; and it enhances the power of small contributors by prohibiting candidates from raising or spending more than 25 percent of the spending limit—\$150,000—in contributions greater than \$250, among other provisions. It also includes provisions to address the matter of wealthy candidates—if a candidate spends more than \$60,000 in personal funds toward an election, then the candidate's opponent's spending limit is increased and the amount PAC's and individuals can contribute to the opponent doubles to \$2,000.

However, there are some things I'd like to see modified in the bill. For example, I'd like to see a requirement that at least 40 or 50 percent of a candidate's contributions come from within the State. I'd like to see stronger franking reforms, like changing the definition of a mass mailing to 250 pieces of mail or more rather than the present level of 500 pieces. I'd like to see a significantly lower contribution level for wealthy candidates—the bill allows candidates to spend up to \$60,000 in personal funds toward the election.

Furthermore, I have questions about the efficacy of spending limits, and whether they serve to hinder, or to assist, challengers.

At this point, it is less important to draft the perfect campaign reform bill than to make sure

that campaign finance is firmly established on the congressional agenda. There will be ample opportunity to discuss other campaign finance reform provisions once Congress is committed to cleaning up Federal election campaigns. This bill makes an outstanding contribution to the campaign finance reform debate and has the momentum to move through the legislative process. I urge my colleague to give it their careful consideration and cosponsorship.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF AMBASSADOR SAMUEL G. WISE, JR.

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 1997*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the Helsinki Commission mourns the recent death of its esteemed Director of International Policy, Ambassador Samuel G. Wise, Jr. He faithfully served his country through years in the Marine Corps, the U.S. Foreign Service, and the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe. I am privileged to have worked alongside him during his many years with the Commission, as he offered sage advice, well-reasoned insight and guidance based on years of experience in the diplomatic community. His appointment as Ambassador when he was Deputy Head of the U.S. Delegation to the 1986–89 Vienna Review Meeting was well deserved.

Typical of Ambassador Wise's commitment to the work of the Helsinki Commission and the best national interests of the United States, he most recently served on the U.S. Delegation to the Vienna Review Conference of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe held last November. He attended and offered timely and indispensable advice in drafting the Declaration of the OSCE Lisbon Summit held in early December. Ambassador Wise's participation in these international meetings were tireless and his contributions, highlighting the fundamental importance of human rights throughout the work of the OSCE, were significant and lasting.

The numerous letters of condolences which have been received at the Helsinki Commission are indicative of the impact Ambassador Wise has had on the OSCE community. From diplomats, to human rights activists, to friends and colleagues, the effect of this one life has been eloquently chronicled. Some reminisced about their "fond memories of his personality, professional expertise and intellectual brightness." Others recognized his dedication "to promote the goals of the United States and of the Commission, as stated in the Helsinki Accords and in other documents issued subsequently." One noted that "compassionate and engaged, Sam was the consummate Helsinki expert whose objectivity and capacity to get it right were unrivaled. Highly regarded by the entire OSCE community, his loss is irreplaceable." Respected as "a man of integrity and honored convictions" and remembered as a "warm and compassionate human being," Ambassador Wise has admirers virtually around the globe.

Both as a Commissioner and, most recently, as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I sought and appreciated very much the counsel which Sam provided. The combination of